

**Department of Health and Social Services**  
**Impact Statements in Response to**  
**Senate Finance Subcommittee Budget Proposals**  
**Date: April 14, 2003**  
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The Senate Subcommittee budget reflects a net decrease of (\$15,695,200) from the Governor's FY2004 amended budget request. Of this reduction, (\$7,394,400) is from general funds.

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Dollar</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Behavioral Health Grants	<b>Amount(s):</b>	<b>Source(s):</b>
	(\$6,500,000)	Interagency Receipts
	<u>(\$3,500,000)</u>	Alcohol/Drug
		Prevention &
		Treatment Fund
	(\$10,000,000)	Total

**Impact Title:** Deny Substance Abuse Treatment for Juveniles in Rural Alaska and Prevention and Treatment for Family Preservation and redirect Alcohol/Drug Prevention and Treatment funds to replace general funds in existing programs.

**Impact Analysis:** The subcommittee denied the funding for expansion of treatment for juveniles in rural Alaska and prevention and treatment for Family Preservation. They redirected the use of \$3,500,000 in Alcohol/Drug Prevention & Treatment Funds to Behavioral Health Medicaid Services to offset general fund need in that program.

*Rural Juveniles* - The demand for substance abuse treatment for adolescents exceeds the existing capacity. Research has shown that when young people are screened and treated for alcohol and substance abuse early, they have a significantly increased likelihood of achieving and maintaining a clean and sober life.

*Prevention and Treatment for Family Preservation* - Many individuals, including significant numbers of women, are waiting for treatment as a condition for reunification with their children. In 2002, 57% of women waiting for treatment services had children in out-of-home placement. Limiting treatment availability for women and men with children with children in out-of-home placement has a high cost to the family, the community and the State.

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Dollar</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Tobacco Prevention and Control	<b>Amount(s):</b>	<b>Source(s):</b>
	(\$ 157,800)	General Funds
	<u>(\$2,046,600)</u>	Tobacco Education &
		Cessation Funds

(\$2,364,400) Total

**Impact Title:** Redirect Tobacco funds to Health Care Services to pay for treatment of tobacco related illnesses

**Impact Analysis:** The Senate Subcommittee redirected the Tobacco Education and Cessation funding to pay for tobacco related illnesses in Medicaid services.

With the funding provided by the Legislature in State FY03, the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program has been successful in the initial stages of developing and implementing proven and cost-effective tobacco control measures with partners and community-based organizations statewide. Sustained funding is important to enable these new programs to reach their full potential.

The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program identified a critical need to develop community-based programs to reach the state's populations with disproportionately high use of tobacco. Alaska Native and rural communities are at especially high risk of tobacco-related disease. During State FY03, the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program has nearly doubled its grants to community organizations, primarily in rural Alaska. Cuts to the Program's budget would force the suspension of at least 50 percent of grants specifically earmarked for Alaska Native communities, rural communities and minority population groups that have not previously been reached with prevention programs.

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Dollar Amount(s):</b>	<b>Fund Source(s):</b>
Infant Learning Program Grants	(\$250,000)	General Funds

**Impact Title:** Reduce ILP grant dollars

**Impact Analysis:** A reduction of \$250,000 would result in elimination of Early Intervention services to 58 children around the state.

Alaska receives federal funding specifically to provide early intervention services to Part C children and their families under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). The Office of Special Education Programs, (OSEP), which provides funding for specific Part C services under IDEA, requires that all children potentially eligible for Part C services be provided with screening, assessment and evaluation services for the purpose of determining Part C eligibility. Part C law lists in §303.521(b) those functions that must be carried out at public expense and for which parents may not be billed. These include "core services" specified in Alaska statute AS 47.20.060 – 47.20.290 (case management and assessment) and child find activities, family service coordination, individualized family service plan development, and the implementation of procedural safeguards. These services must be maintained to remain compliant with both Alaska statute and federal law. Currently, 75% of all children

enrolled in EI/ILP services qualify under Part C. The remaining 25% of enrolled children experience developmental delays of 15% to 49% or are at risk for delays.

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Amount(s):</b>	<b>Source(s):</b>
API 2000/Community Programs	\$ 750,000	General Funds
	<u>\$ 950,000</u>	MHTAAR
	\$1,700,000	TOTAL

**Impact Title:** Fund Community Services/API 2000

**Impact Analysis:** The subcommittee funded components for continued Community Mental Health/API Replacement Project to provide community based services in the Anchorage area and divert persons in crisis from API. This is part of the overall plan to downsize API. \$950,000 of this funding has been redirected from other Trust projects, e.g. Medicaid Review and Enhancement, in order to fund this higher priority project.

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Amount(s):</b>	<b>Source(s):</b>
Children's Services - Foster Care	(\$1,000,000)	General Funds

**Impact Title:** Reduction to Foster Care Base Rate and Special Needs

**Impact Analysis:** The reduction of \$500,000 to Foster Care Base Rate may be able to be managed due to new trends in the program that show lower caseloads; the \$500,000 in Foster Care Special Needs funding will require the Children's Services division to increase controls and limit expenditures in the program including saving travel funds from client related travel.